

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims replaces all previous version or listing of the claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A percutaneous apparatus, comprising:

a coupling member containing therein an elongated percutaneous electrode movable relative to the coupling member and deployable from a first neutral position to a second position, wherein the percutaneous electrode comprises having a first segment with a sharp first end, and a second segment with a second end, wherein at least part of the second segment being percutaneous electrode is configured to resiliently return toward [[a]] the neutral position, the at least part of the second segment being spaced apart from at least part of the first segment by a separation distance when in the neutral position; and

a coupling member an actuator tool having an aperture, the aperture having comprising an electrically conductive portion electrically engaged to the percutaneous electrode, the aperture being sized to removably receive the at least part of first segment and the at least part of the second segment in contact with the electrically conductive portion.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The percutaneous apparatus of claim 1, ~~wherein the aperture has a diameter smaller than the separation distance~~ wherein the second end is substantially J-shaped.

Claim 3 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first segment and the second segment are formed from a single conductive member, the single conductive member having a bend of approximately 180 degrees or more between the first end and the second end.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the percutaneous electrode includes a resilient, conductive material ~~with at least one of the first and second segments being movable relative to the other,~~ and wherein the conductive material has a first

configuration when ~~[[the]]~~ at least part of the first segment is spaced apart from ~~[[the]]~~ at least part of the second segment by a first distance between the first and second segment, and wherein the conductive material further ~~having~~ has a second configuration ~~with the~~ when at least part of the first segment spaced apart from ~~[[the]]~~ at least part of the second segment by a second distance between the first and second segment that is less than the first distance, the conductive material being elastically changeable from the first configuration to the second configuration.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising~~[[:]]~~
~~a housing with the percutaneous probe movably received in the housing; and~~
~~an attachment device coupled to the housing and wherein the coupling~~
member is releasably coupleable attached to a recipient's skin.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): A percutaneous apparatus, comprising:
a coupling member containing therein a percutaneous electrode movable relative to the coupling member and deployable from a first neutral position to a second position, the percutaneous electrode having a first segment with a sharp first end and a second segment with a second end, wherein at least part of the percutaneous electrode is configured to resiliently return toward the neutral position, and wherein at least part of the first segment ~~[[being]]~~ is aligned along an axis, and wherein at least part of the second segment ~~[[being]]~~ is offset from the axis; and

~~a coupling member having an aperture, the aperture having an aperture wall with at least a portion of the aperture wall being electrically conductive, the aperture being sized to removably receive at least part of the first segment and at least part of the second segment, with at least part of the first segment and at least part of the second segment being in contact with the electrically conductive portion of the aperture wall~~ an actuator tool comprising an electrically conductive portion electrically engaged to the percutaneous electrode.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the percutaneous electrode includes a resilient, conductive material with at least one of the first and second segments being movable relative to the other, and wherein the conductive material has a first configuration when ~~[[the]]~~ at least part of the first segment is spaced apart from ~~[[the]]~~ at least part of the second segment by a first distance between the first and second segments, and wherein the conductive material further ~~having~~ has a second configuration ~~with the~~ when at least part of the first segment spaced apart from ~~[[the]]~~ at least part of the second segment by a second distance between the first and second segment that is less than the first distance, the conductive material being elastically changeable from the first configuration to the second configuration.

Claims 8-9: Cancelled.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): A percutaneous apparatus, comprising:

a coupling member containing therein a percutaneous electrode movable relative to the coupling member and deployable from a first neutral position to a second position, the percutaneous electrode having a first segment with a first end, ~~the percutaneous electrode further having~~ and a second segment with a second end spaced apart from the first end, wherein the first segment ~~[[being]]~~ is aligned along a first axis, wherein the second segment ~~[[being]]~~ is aligned along a second axis offset from the first axis, wherein the percutaneous electrode ~~[[having]]~~ has an at least approximately 180 degree bend between the first and second ends; and

~~a coupling member having an aperture, the aperture having an aperture wall with at least a portion of the aperture wall being electrically conductive, the aperture being sized to removably receive the first and second segments of the percutaneous electrode and the at least approximately 180 degree bend with the first and second segments in contact with the electrically conductive portion of the aperture wall~~ an actuator tool comprising an electrically conductive portion electrically engaged to the percutaneous electrode.

Claims 11-53: Cancelled.

Claim 54 (New): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the portion near the second end is substantially J-shaped.

Claim 55 (New): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the 180 degree bend is J-shaped.